

Call for proposals

The VU Interdisciplinary Centre for European Studies (VICES) is accepting a second round of funding applications for events organized by VU faculty members, which contribute to the quality and visibility of research relating to Europe at the VU. We support two types of activities: *larger events* (up to 3000 euros) and *smaller events* (up to 500 euros). Events may be understood broadly, to include (online) conferences, workshops, guest speakers, panel discussions, debates and so on. We particularly encourage activities that work towards a research grant proposal (e.g. NWO, H2020 etc.). Furthermore, proposals that deal with Europe in meeting the challenges of the Coronavirus crisis and the implications for the EU in the context of possible scenarios for a post-Corona world are particularly welcome.

Disclaimer: The activities should take place before December 31st 2020, which may be a challenge given the current Covid-19 crisis. We would like to avoid that all events take place in December. We therefore appeal to the creativity and flexibility of applicants in designing and planning events, and ask to consider the possibility of doing an online event instead. The latter naturally will involve much fewer costs than physical event, but VICES is very open to any creative proposals for webinars and online workshops that may require some funding (for e.g. the hiring of ICT support or a student assistant for the organization). Please be advised, that even if planned for the end of the year, physical events bringing relatively large groups of people together, may still not be possible for the whole of 2020. Hence, any possible acceptance on our part of a proposal for any physical event will therefore be conditional, depending on how the current crisis evolves and on future guidelines (which will have to be respected)

VICES larger events fund and research grant application support fund

Up to 3000 euros per event may be applied for. Funding may be requested for the costs of hosting and organizing an event (travel, subsistence, accommodation, thank-you gifts etc.), and for student assistance with organizing, but not for the salaries of researchers. We are also open to other types of funding purposes, as long as it is tied to a clear EU-related project with the prospect of a grant application, a publication, and/or continued research collaboration. Also in light of the current uncertainty with respect to the organization of events, we also encourage the application for (limited) RA-assistance for constructing or completing a research grant proposal within the remit of VICES, that is related to EU governance. But do note that funds are limited and that in case of many applications we will go for those proposals that are not only most relevant for European studies, but also most 'efficient', in the sense of most likely to enable a successful grant application.

Criteria for awards

VICES aims to contribute to network building within the VU, and thus attaches particular importance to interdisciplinary activities, and those which help establish new and lasting co-operation. It aims to contribute to the quality and visibility of research on Europe, as well as

stimulating new perspectives, and adding to understanding and interest in European studies among students.

Accordingly, the following factors will be taken into account in awarding funds:

1. Whether the event adds to debate on, or understanding of, contemporary Europe
2. Whether the event involves people from more than one faculty at the VU
3. Whether the event provides an innovative perspective on some aspect of European Studies
4. Whether the event is of interest to a wide group of researchers and students
5. Whether the event represents value for money

Deadline and procedure

1. The deadline for applications is **June 5th 2020**. Events must take place in 2020.
2. Applications should be mailed to vu.vices@gmail.com. They should include a brief but sufficient explanation of the event, and a simple budget.
3. VICES does not fund closed events: events will be circulated via the VICES mailing list, and in principle all those interested must be welcome to attend.

Applicants are welcome to contact Bastiaan van Apeldoorn (e.b.van.apeldoorn@vu.nl) or Gareth Davies (g.t.davies@vu.nl) with any questions.

VICES small events fund

Smaller amounts of money, up to 500 euros, may be applied for throughout the year on a rolling basis. This fund is intended to support (online) guest lectures, including those aimed at students, PhD workshops with guest researchers, and similar events. Other types of funding purposes are not excluded, as long as it is tied to a clear EU-related project with the prospect of a grant application, a publication, and/or continued research collaboration.

Criteria for awards

The primary criteria for awards are whether the event falls within the field of European Studies broadly understood, and the degree of interest or attention the event is likely to attract.

Deadline and procedure

1. This is a rolling call for an event that takes place before **31st of December 2020**.
2. Applications should be mailed to vu.vices@gmail.com. They should include a brief but sufficient explanation of the event, and a simple budget.
3. VICES does not fund closed events: events will be circulated via the VICES mailing list, and in principle all those interested must be welcome to attend.

Applicants are welcome to contact Bastiaan van Apeldoorn (e.b.van.apeldoorn@vu.nl) or Gareth Davies (g.t.davies@vu.nl) with any questions.

About VICES

VU Interdisciplinary Centre for European Studies

What is VICES?

VICES is a platform for researchers at the Vrije Universiteit to share their research, work together, and develop new ideas. It welcomes all those at the university who are interested in contemporary Europe, and extends an ongoing invitation for them to participate in events, share their thoughts, make suggestions, and apply for funding. It also aims to include colleagues who do not study Europe directly, but who have ideas or knowledge that can help us understand the continent and its dynamics. These may be political scientists, sociologists, anthropologists, psychologists, cultural theorists, economists, lawyers or others.

Why have VICES?

VICES aims to

- invigorate and raise the profile of the research done at the VU on Europe
- create new interdisciplinary networks of researchers
- add to the field of European studies by offering a distinctive and refreshing perspective on the field
- facilitate new research projects, new funding, and new ideas.

Our mission statement

European integration is a uniquely radical experiment in governance, which can only be understood by drawing on the insights of the human and social sciences beyond those traditionally regarded as 'European studies'. The study of Europe needs to become less introspective, and more exploratory: we plead for a turn to the outside, to reinvigorate the field. We would like to see European studies integrating the idea of disruption and reorganisation in fields such as the environment, technology, identity and geopolitics.

All those who would like to contribute to thinking about Europe are invited to let us know at vu.vices@gmail.com. Colleagues from outside the VU are welcome to participate too.